

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Application of: John N. STANIFORTH, *et al.*
Serial No.: To Be Assigned
Filed: Herewith
For: **PROCESS FOR PREPARING PHARMACEUTICAL
PRODUCTS**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patent
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Arlington, VA 22202

December 13, 2001

Sir:

Please amend the above referenced patent application prior to examination as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATIONPlease **delete** the title of the invention, and **add** the new title as follows: 

A PROCESS FOR PREPARING A DIRECTLY COMPRESSIBLE SOLID
DOSAGE FORM CONTAINING MICROCRYSTALLINE CELLULOSE

On page 1, line 5, after the heading "Background Of The Invention", please insert the following paragraph:

- - This application is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/868,745, filed June 4, 1997, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/019,546, filed June 10, 1996. - -

IN THE CLAIMS

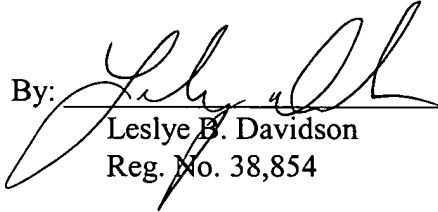
Please cancel claims 21-31 without prejudice.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 21-31 have been canceled in order to reduce the filing fee for the present application. The specification has been amended to include a more descriptive title of the invention and to amend the continuation data. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added by virtue of these amendments.

Respectfully Submitted,
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